

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

--In the link (linking) of such a write-once type optical disc, such as a DVD-R, three types of ~~linking~~ linking sizes are defined, which are 32KB, 2KB, and lossless linking. In the case where the linking size is 32KB, if the recording is completed by a unit of 1ECC block, for example, information for the link is recorded within a second sync frame of a sector at the head of the ECC block, before a 32KB linking loss area is provided. Then, padding is performed until the 32KB linking loss area is filled up, and the additional or postscript recording of user data is started from a NWA (Next Writable Address). As described above, in the case where the linking size is 32KB, overhead increases more, however, error correction by the unit of ECC block is not influenced by the link, resulting in high-quality.--

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 and bridging pages 4 and 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--In order to solve the above object of the present invention, an information recording apparatus ~~according to claim~~ \pm of the present invention is provided with: a writing device (i) capable of writing, with respect to a disc-shaped information recording medium in which at least first and second recording layers making a pair are laminated and in which a buffer area to

prevent a recording or reproduction position for the first and second recording layers from being off to an unrecorded area is disposed in a position adjacent to a recording area in the first and second recording layers, a first portion out of information to be recorded into the first recording layer along a first track path directing from one side to the other side out of an inner circumferential side and an outer circumferential side of the information recording medium, and (ii) capable of writing a second portion out of the information to be recorded into the second recording layer, with a recording direction reversed, along a second track path directing from the other side to the one side; and a controlling device for controlling the writing device (I) to write the first portion into the first recording layer along the first track path, and then write a predetermined amount of first buffer data into the first recording layer along the first track path in one portion of the buffer area of the first recording layer, and also perform layer jump from the first recording layer to the second recording layer, and then (II) to write a predetermined amount of second buffer data into the second recording layer along the second track path in one portion of the buffer area of the second recording layer, and then write the second portion into the second recording layer along the second track path.--

Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

--In order to solve the above object of the present invention, an information recording / reproducing apparatus ~~according to claim 13~~ is further provided with: a reading device capable of reading the first and second portions from the first and second recording layers; and a reproducing device for reproducing the read first and second portions, the controlling device controlling the reading device (I) to read the first portion from the first recording layer along the first track path, and then read the predetermined amount of first buffer data in the one portion of the buffer area of the first recording layer, and then (II) to search for any one of addresses out of the correspondence address, the quasi-correspondence address, and the firstly recognized address, while reading the predetermined amount of second buffer data in the one portion of the buffer area of the second recording layer, and then start reading of the second portion along the second track path on the basis of the searched address, and controls the reproducing device to reproduce the read first and second portions.--

Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 and bridging pages 5 and 6 with the following amended paragraph:

--In order to solve the above object of the present invention, an information recording method ~~according to claim 14~~ of the present invention is an information recording method in an

information recording apparatus provided with: a writing device (i) capable of writing, with respect to a disc-shaped information recording medium in which at least first and second recording layers making a pair are laminated and in which a buffer area to prevent a recording or reproduction position for the first and second recording layers from being off to an unrecorded area is disposed in a position adjacent to a recording area in the first and second recording layers, a first portion out of information to be recorded into the first recording layer along a first track path directing from one side to the other side out of an inner circumferential side and an outer circumferential side of the information recording medium, and (ii) capable of writing a second portion out of the information to be recorded into the second recording layer, with a recording direction reversed, along a second track path directing from the other side to the one side, the information recording method provided with: a controlling process of controlling the writing device (I) to write the first portion into the first recording layer along the first track path, and then write a predetermined amount of first buffer data into the first recording layer along the first track path in one portion of the buffer area of the first recording layer, and also perform layer jump from the first recording layer to the second recording layer, and then (II) to write a predetermined amount of second buffer data into the second recording layer along the second track path in one portion of the

buffer area of the second recording layer, and then write the second portion into the second recording layer along the second track path.--

Page 6, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 and bridging pages 6 and 7 with the following amended paragraph:

--In order to solve the above object of the present invention, an information recording / reproducing method ~~according to claim 15~~ of the present invention is an information recording / reproducing method in an information recording / reproducing apparatus, provided with: the information recording apparatus according to claim 3, and further provided with: reading device capable of reading the first and second portions from the first and second recording layers; and a reproducing device for reproducing the read first and second portions, : a reading device capable of reading the first and second portions from the first and second recording layers; and a reproducing device for reproducing the read first and second portions, the information recording / reproducing method provided with: a controlling process of controlling the reading device (I) to read the first portion from the first recording layer along the first track path, and then read the predetermined amount of first buffer data in the one portion of the buffer area of the first recording layer, and then (II) to search for any one of addresses out of the correspondence address, the quasi-correspondence address, and the firstly recognized address, while reading the

predetermined amount of second buffer data in the one portion of the buffer area of the second recording layer, and then start reading of the second portion along the second track path on the basis of the searched address.--

Page 7, replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

--In order to solve the above object of the present invention, a computer program ~~according to claim 16~~ of the present invention is a computer program of instructions for recording control and for tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a computer provided in the information recording apparatus according to claim 1, to make the computer function as at least one portion of the controlling device and the writing device.--

Page 15, replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

--In one aspect of the embodiment of the information recording apparatus of the present invention, the controlling ~~device~~ device controls the writing device to end writing of the predetermined amount of first buffer data into the first recording layer, in a predetermined recording unit including a physical address, in the one portion of the buffer area of the first recording layer.--

Page 15, replace the paragraph beginning on line 26 and bridging pages 15 and 16 with the following amended paragraph:

--In this aspect, the controlling ~~device~~ device may control the writing device to start writing of the predetermined amount of second buffer data into the second recording layer, from a predetermined recording unit including a correspondence address in the one portion of the buffer area of the second recording layer corresponding to the physical address.--

Page 17, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 and bridging pages 17 and 18 with the following amended paragraph:

--In this aspect, the controlling ~~device~~ device may control the writing device to start writing of the predetermined amount of second buffer data into the second recording layer, from a predetermined recording unit including a firstly recognized address.--

Page 18, replace the paragraph beginning on line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

--In this aspect, the controlling ~~device~~ device may control the writing device to write the firstly recognized address into a predetermined area in at least one of the first and second recording layers.--

Page 18, replace the paragraph beginning on line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

--In this aspect, the controlling ~~device~~ device may control the writing device to write a last address where

recording is ended in the one portion of the buffer area of the first recording layer, into a predetermined area in at least one of the first and second recording layers.--

Page 19, replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

--In another aspect of the embodiment of the information recording apparatus of the present invention, the controlling ~~device~~ device controls the writing device to further write the first buffer data in order to fill up another portion of the first buffer area and to further write the second buffer data in order to fill up another portion of the second buffer area, after writing of the second portion into the second recording layer is completed.--

Page 19, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 and bridging pages 19 and 20 with the following amended paragraph:

--In another aspect of the embodiment of the information recording apparatus of the present invention, the controlling ~~device~~ device controls the writing device to start recording of the first portion from a portion of the first recording layer continued from a lead-in area of the information recording medium, and to write information for forming a lead-out area on the one side of a recording end position of the second recording layer, after writing of the second portion into the second recording layer is completed.--